<u>REMARKS</u>

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3, 10-12, 14, 15, 19-21, 23, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent application publication 2002/0124079 A1 to <u>Pulsipher</u> in view of U.S. patent 6,779,027 to <u>Schunicht et al.</u> (herein "<u>Schunicht</u>") and further in view of U.S. patent application publication 2002/0059410 A1 to <u>Hara et al.</u> (herein "<u>Hara</u>"). Claims 4-6, 13-15, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over <u>Pulsipher</u> in view of <u>Schunicht</u> in view of <u>Hara</u> as applied to claims 1-3, 10-12, 14, 15, 19-21, 23, and 24, and further in view of U.S. patent 7,080,141 B1 to <u>Baekelmans et al.</u> (herein "<u>Baekelmans</u>"). Claims 9, 18, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over <u>Pulsipher</u> in view of <u>Schunicht</u> in view of <u>Hara</u> in view of <u>Baekelmans</u>, and further in view of U.S. patent 6,834,350 B1 to <u>Boroughs et al.</u> (herein "<u>Boroughs</u>"). Claims 7, 16, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over <u>Pulsipher</u> in view of <u>Schunicht</u> in view of <u>Hara</u> as applied to claims 1-3, 10-12, 14, 15, 19-21, 23, and 24, and further in view of U.S. patent 6,112,015 to <u>Planas et al.</u> (herein "<u>Planas</u>"). Claims 8, 17, and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over <u>Pulsipher</u> in view of <u>Schunicht</u> in view of <u>Hara</u> as applied to claims 1-3, 10-12, 14, 15, 19-21, 23, and 24, and further in view of U.S. patent 6,539,425 B1 to <u>Stevens et al.</u> (herein "<u>Stevens</u>").

Addressing the above-noted prior art rejections, those rejections are traversed by the present response as discussed next.

The basis for each outstanding rejection cites <u>Pulsipher</u> to disclose a plug-in 300 in Figure 3 that can be used with standard network management software 140, and that includes first through fourth computer controls to operate through the standard network management software, but the outstanding rejection also states "Pulsipher does not appear to explicitly

disclose a plug-in, for use with plural different standard network management software".[1] To overcome that recognized deficiency in Pulsipher the outstanding rejection cites Schunicht to disclose the use of plural different standard network management software, noting Figure 4 therein.

Applicants traverse the above-noted grounds for the outstanding rejection and submit the outstanding rejection is still misconstruing the disclosure particularly in Pulsipher in that the element 300 in Pulsipher is *not* any type of plug-in, and does *not execute any computer controls through a standard network management software*. Instead, in Pulsipher the element 300 is a stand-alone device discovery module that connects to a network interface 150 and that also connects to the network management software 140. In that respect, the device discovery module 300 in Pulsipher in only provided between the network interface 150 and the network management software 140, and further the device discovery module 300 in Pulsipher does *not utilize the network management software 140 to perform the claimed first, second, third, and fourth computer controls*.

In the claimed invention, in contrast to Pulsipher, a plug-in utilizes the existing network management software. Pulsipher does not operate in that manner in that Pulsipher does not utilize the network manager software 140 for access to a database, to determine devices on the network, and to report a polling. Instead, in Pulsipher the specialized dedicated device discovery module 300 is utilized for such types of functions.

Stated another way, the outstanding rejection is incorrect in its position that the device discovery module 300 in Pulsipher includes "a first computer control configured to access the database *through the standard network management software*" (emphasis added), as recited in independent claim 1, and as similarly recited in the other independent claims . The device

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[1] Office Action of March 3, 2008 the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3, and also page 3 penultimate paragraph.

discovery module 300 in Pulsipher does not use the network management software 140 to access a database.

The basis for the outstanding rejection is also incorrect as the device discovery module 300 in Pulsipher does not include "a second computer control configured to *determine through the standard network management software* ... if the identified network devices belong to a selected group of network devices" (emphasis added), as recited in independent claim 1, and as similarly recited in the other independent claims. In Pulsipher the device discovery module 300 performs such a determination but not through the network management software 140.

The basis for the outstanding rejection is also incorrect in that Pulsipher does not disclose or suggest the claimed "a third computer control configured to poll *through the standard network management software* ... the selected group of network devices for information" (emphasis added) and the claimed "a fourth computer control configured to report *through the standard network management software* ... results of the polling to the remote monitoring center" (emphasis added), as also recited in independent claim 1, and as similarly recited in the other independent claims. Again the device discovery module 300 in Pulsipher performs such actions itself and not through the network management software 140.

In that respect the outstanding Office Action is misconstruing Pulsipher relative to the claims.

In view of the above-discussed deficiencies in Pulsipher, and as no teachings in Schunicht were cited with respect to disclosing the claimed first, second, and fourth computer controls as recited in independent claim 1, and as similarly recited in the other independent claims, no applied art is believed to meet the above-noted claimed features. In that respect applicants also note Schunicht was merely cited to disclose a plug-in for use with different

standard network management software. Even with respect to that reliance on <u>Schunicht</u>, applicants submit the teachings in <u>Schunicht</u> are not properly applicable to <u>Pulsipher</u>. That is, <u>Pulsipher</u> is specifically directed to utilizing a specific device discovery module 300 that is independent of network management software 140 and that connects to a network interface 150. In that respect <u>Pulsipher</u> *teaches away* from utilizing a plug-in such as in <u>Schunicht</u>. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not even have combined any teachings in <u>Schunicht</u> directed to a plug-in to a device in <u>Pulsipher</u> that *teaches away* from a plug-in.

In such further ways, no combination of teachings of <u>Pulsipher</u> and <u>Schunicht</u> meets the limitations recited in independent claim 1 as currently written.
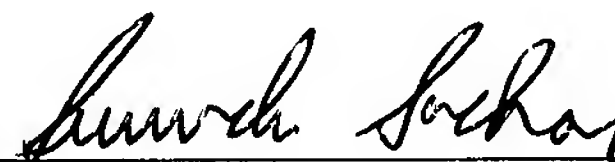
Moreover, no teachings in any of the further cited references to <u>Hara</u>, <u>Baekelmans</u>, <u>Boroughs</u>, <u>Planas</u>, or <u>Stevens</u> were cited with respect to the above-noted features, and no teachings in any of those further references are believed to cure the above-discussed deficiencies of <u>Pulsipher</u> in view of <u>Schunicht</u>.

In view of the foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit each of claims 1-27 as currently written distinguishes over the previously applied art.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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